

etc.. This is free to unwaged individuals. Even if people aren't in a position to make a donation or send a few stamps, it would be appreciated if they could return the form. With an expanding list & a highly mobile network, we will use our discretion to delete a number of people each mailing who haven't kept in touch.

THE FREE UNIVERSITY NETWORK

The Free University Network began in early 1987 when it became apparent that there was a lot of common ground between people involved in various projects based in the West of Scotland. These activities ranged from production of literary, artistic and political magazines to active interventions in these areas.

In its initial period, the Network has provided a wider base of interest and support to events initiated in these circles. A regular programme of discussions has covered a wide range of topics: the marketing of junkets like the Garden Festival; the lives and works of Joseph Beuys and Paulo Freire; radical Art movements; Simon Frith on Pop Music; computers in the workplace; sexual politics; readings by writers; the German Green Movement; pornography; etc. These discussions have been informal: an initial talk (which should avoid mystifying jargon) leads into open discussion.

Other events have included city walks, picnics, informal art and drumming classes and French-speaking evenings.

Three larger debates have punctuated this period: the *Culture and Politics* day event in July 1987; the *Scratch Parliament* day in November 1988; and the *Self-Determination & Power* two-day event (in conjunction with *Scottish Child* magazine) in January 1990. A book and a video documenting the *Self-Determination and Power* event are currently being prepared.

The ~~discursive~~ side of our activities has been prominent, largely because of the practicalities of using the spaces available. Some people are frightened by this kind of discussion; others prefer "doing" to "saying". If the Network isn't to repeat the limitations of the formal education system, it should create openings so that people with different interests feel confident to contribute.

A more permanent location is needed to accomplish this, a space where people from a wide range of backgrounds can come together and share resources. To this end, we are seeking suitable premises in central Glasgow and building a financial support network of individual donations.

If you are interested in joining the *Free University Network*, please complete the form below and send £2 to cover the costs of mailings, etc. (This is negotiable in cases of hardship.)

The *Free University Network* welcomes contact from anyone seeking information or with ideas for future activities.

To: Free University Network
c/o Transmission Gallery
28 King St.
Glasgow G1 5QP

From: _____

1. I wish to join the *Free University Network*. I enclose £2. _____.
My interests are _____
2. Please send more information about the *Free University Network*. _____.
+ starting order info?

THE FREE UNIVERSITY NETWORK

The Free University Network began early in 1987. It was started by a group of people interested in different activities to do with art, politics, literature and education. One central aim was to create the conditions where folk from a wide range of backgrounds could come together and share their knowledge, skills and resources. The network also provides a mutual support base for those involved in various events and projects.

Regular discussions and forums have taken place on topics such as the marketing of junkets like the Garden Festival and Culture City; the lives and works of Joseph Beuys and Paulo Freire; radical art movements; computers in the workplace; sexual politics; the German Green Movement; pornography. Other events have included city walks, socials; Simon Frith on pop music; picnics, readings by writers; climbing The Cobbler; informal art and drumming classes, French-speaking evenings. There have been three large open debates: the Culture and Politics day in July 1987; the Scratch Parliament day in November 1988; the Self Determination and Power event (in conjunction with Scottish Child magazine) in January 1990. A book and video documenting the latter event are currently being prepared.

But a permanent space is vitally important to the development of the Network. Without this there are too many constraints on those who want to take part but have come late on the scene, and also on those who may want to start other kinds of activities. If the Network is not to repeat the limitations of the formal education system it has to create openings for a wider range of people.

We are therefore seeking suitable premises, in central Glasgow to allow the best possible access. It would remain open beyond the normal 'office' hours and be a place people could drop into and relax. But to bring it off we need to build a stronger financial base, initially through individual donations. If you can donate something then please do so by joining the Free University Network on the form below. This is free to unwaged people but if you can afford it please send £2 or more to cover mailing costs. If you are not in a position to donate anything, even a few stamps, it would still be appreciated if you return the form. With an expanding list and a mobile network we can exercise discretion in deleting the names of those who do not keep in touch.

TO: Free University Network
c/o Transmission Gallery,

28 King St., Glasgow G1 5QP

I enclose £2 or more (free to unwaged) - A Standing Order Form can be sent to
Supporters able to make regular donations.
My interests are _____

From: Dave Anstey
817 Onslow Dr
GLASGOW G31 2QQ

The Free University Network welcomes contact from anyone wanting
further information, or with ideas for future activities.

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c/o Transmission Gallery,

28 King St., Glasgow G1 5QP

I enclose £2 or more (free to unwaged)

My interests are _____

The Free University Network welcomes contact from anyone wanting further information, or with ideas for future activities.

Q21 Langside Rd,
Crosstoll,
Glasgow
G42 8XY

Please forward to me, at the above address, any information concerning the Free University.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Magowan.

I am interested in the ideas and aims of this group and would be grateful for information.

Francis Durrans

22 ANNETTE ST.

Glasgow

G42 8XA

Jim,

Above last batch of mail I picked up for Here & Now included these 2 letters to 'F.U.' (about 2 weeks ago).

Encl. a few CIs, note Perroti update, a copy of 'Inside Info' is being prepared by the Scottish A.B.C. & refers to women prisoners etc joining the Death Strike.

Speaking To Alastair Dickson, last week. He shares my opinion that there should be a 'follow up' event/ meeting/symposium "The 90s?", perhaps in Transmission, in late March if possible. I've had a few complaints from people, about the volume of 'Scottish Child' promos now being circulated to FU people. I'll send a copy of the two names above to Jack, & ask him to integrate these in list from Conf. on circulated Questionnaire + pruned original FU list.

c u Keith.

2 or 3 spaces / link

DAY	ART WORKSHOPS	People / Traditions / History
1		Black v White v Brown PREJUDICE CATHOLICS v PROTESTANTS
2	CREATIVE WRITERS' WORKSHOP	GENDER HISTORY PARTICULAR
3	& DANCE SCULPTURE WORKSHOP	GUY ALDRED FOOD COOPS VERSUS SUPERMARKETS
4	MUSIC WORKSHOP	THE LEGAL SYSTEM versus ordinary people
5	VISUAL ARTS WORKSHOP	HEALTH (SIAM, INSURANCE, GENOMICS)
6	DRAMA WORKSHOP	THE MEDIA Television VERSUS COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PEOPLE
7	VIDEO WORKSHOP	SCHOOLS VERSUS EDUCATION

inventions

PEARCE Johnson, Gordon

Themes

MUSIC

MMUNE / STATE

TRADES UNIONS
& ORGANISATION

Religion &
photography

IN Society

THEATRE
concert

Politicians
versus
people

SCOTLAND

THEATRE &
concert

Beyond CND

concert
Revue

TNG /
& OF WRITERS
WORKSHOPS

K/DAMP
T COUNT,
& intubability, etc.

CORE
THUST
DRUG
USE

Theatre
concert

FREE RIGHTS /
FREE STATE /
CLAIMANTS UNIONS
ST GOTO PEOPLE PASS OFF

Theatre
Concert

DISSENT IS ASSIMILATED

CELEIDH

INVENTION

Free University Project
Pigeonhole 9
340 West Princes Street,
Glasgow G4 9HF



November 1983.

The ~~Free University~~
Dear ~~Members~~

NEW TRANSMISSION GALLERY PREMISES, King St./Parnie St, Trongate.

The free university is pleased to propose concrete involvement in the promotion and development of Transmission Gallery. The new, greatly enlarged, premises will allow for a gallery and eventspace for the visual arts, performance art, culture based discussion, and the provision of working areas to promote knowledge of film & literary production.

A provisional consultation between FUG 'core group' representatives, Jim Kelman, Carol Rhodes, Ian Brown, Keith Millar and Transmission Committee member, Billy Clark, revealed broad areas of agreement in relation to the aims and social uses of the new Gallery project. In particular, the free university offers a definite proposal for the construction of a workspace within the basement section of the premises (see below). By mutual arrangement, to coordinate timings, publicity & spaces available, the FUG also intends to hold discussion forums within similar parameters to the forums held, 1987/8 in disparate venues in central Glasgow.

- * The FUG, which is also a registered charity, would enter into an arrangement to contribute, by standing order, a sum towards the overheads of rental, electricity & other running costs.
- * The FUG would construct and adapt a space to be used for working groups, a Magazine Reference Library, and seating for planning meetings of associated workgroups. The projected space is adjacent to the planned fire escape stairway approximately equivalent to half of that third of the basement complex. The FUG would bear the cost of providing materials and labour to complete the work, and draw up a plan, based on architectural advice, consistent with the overall plan of the premises.
- * The FUG would assist in the creation of an activity/initiative based Noticeboard to promote ventures of mutual/pto

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interest, in a location designed to maximise public view.
* The FUG would delegate a member of the 'core group' responsible for carrying out duties within the designated workspace to attend such meetings of the Transmission Gallery Committee as appropriate. The FUG would place great emphasis on the social responsibility required in cooperating within the gallery and the liability of 'core group' members to ensure minimal nuisance, disruption & damage to the fabric and fixtures of the gallery.

* The FUG would aim to foster a spirit of creative pluralism and imaginative diversity which would complement the efforts of the Gallery to increase awareness and alternative ways to view and participate in the world we live in.

~~The idea of this proposal is to have it considered by the Transmission Gallery Committee, and preceding that, to serve as a discussion paper for an invited meeting of those principally involved in the FUG who may wish to locate this development in the context of a renewed statement of the aims of the project.~~

K.M. (prepared from notes from consultation earlier referred to).

SUGGESTED AGENDA

1. PROPOSAL OF INVOLVEMENT WITH TRANSMISSION GALLERY.
2. CORRESPONDENCE & NEWS OF RELATED PROJECTS.
3. FINANCE, FUNDRAISING & THE USE & ACCESS TO FUNDS.
4. MEETINGS, EVENTS & SEASONAL CELEBRATIONS TO BE PLANNED.

~~The Meeting will be held at Jim & Marie Kelman's flat at 244 West Princes St. (top floor) at 7pm on Tuesday 22nd November. Location approx ½ way between Kelvinbridge & St. Georges X underground stations.~~

FREE UNIVERSITY

new ideas



Some Comments On Where We Are At K.M.

1. Was created within the "Gathering of the Rays of Culture" links of the "Ed. U. Review" and P.K. in particular and linking magazine projects with a broad Libertarian Socialist outlook.
2. There was a naive and unprofessional attempt to obtain funding without ties and a 'Social Centre' building. It was presumed it would be voluntary run, although some (as with a Community Centre) saw a need for staff.
3. We have charitable status.
4. Our bank account and fund-raising has reflected our 'structureless' image. We have, still, only 2 Standing Orders and occasional infusions from Alastair, Jim etc. including the 'Chomsky' profit.
5. We need to decide whether to have a subscription/membership appeal to sustain funding (rather than relying on a couple of benefactors). Perhaps with a disclaimer saying that if you do not reply by subscribing or sending stamps or saying you're skint, then we have the discretion to discontinue your mailing.
6. We need to be able to update our list of contacts and make sure the updated list is used for mailouts. It would be preferable to have a code for Transmission mail out contacts to avoid overlap. We could choose to synchronise mailouts if we knew Transmission plans.
7. We need to be able to present to our contacts a more coherent set of aims and objectives. We appear confused, pluralistic and eclectic but that is a recipe for short-term existence.
8. We need to work out what the relationship of contacts outside Greater Glasgow is to the F.U., especially in Edinburgh. Contacts with other 'F.U.' type institutions is haphazard and contacts in London etc. tenuous.
9. In the wake of the Chomsky conference, the Book, Play, Film etc. there is a potential for a centre to be established and for a renewed attempt at funding etc. But we need to review if our objectives are the same..
10. There are some parallel or apparently similar initiatives. The 'Workers City' group. People in profile. More defined discussion circles in West Yorkshire. The Conference of Socialist Economists (Gunn/Bonefeld/Holloway). The links and differences need to be 'discussed.'
11. Our idea of events, discussions and talks etc. needs to be rethought. Are themes to be explored? What about ideas for 'think tank' commissions on philosophy and particular areas.

The meeting in the Motor Club showed the interest is still present but we are hamstrung by lack of structure, confused aims and haphazard planning.

- 1 ORGANISING COLLECTIVE. COORDINATORS - OVERALL OR SPECIFIC.
- 2 LIST OF SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS / MAGAZINES.
- 3 AMIS LESS VALUE (ONE) VALUE STAFF FOR FUNDING ONLY.
- 4 USING CAFES + AM OF GETTING LITERATURE INTO
- 5 CONTACTS FW + CIVIL SPACE IDEAS.